I hope you make out these awful scrawls of mine – but consider how they are written –

Boston – Sept 11. 89

Dear Anne & Libbie

Wed. evening

"Weary & faint & late at night" I hasten to tell you the news of the Norfolk District – which I suppose you are anxious to get – I was obliged this morning to go to Dorchester in a state of painful uncertainty – There [illegible] however – & notified me of the result – but an invitation to dinner – I could not refuse – the choice but could learn nothing at the morning session suspense was intolerable & I kept exclaiming –

"Ten Broeck encamped near Rupert's – they must have fought – how went the day?" I asked – I succeeded in getting from Jones & have heard since – completed by Collins & Hunter – the following story – The Norfolk Co. Anti Slavery Society came to Dorchester – at 10 in the morning – in the absence of the Pres – Dr Howe of Quincy – Rev Mr Lee was called to the chair – as Vice Pres – he was with declined – Frothingham – Wm Lloyd Garrison – & a good many others – but Wendell Phillips – & Thurlow Weed – & Horace Greeley – & Henry Wilson – & a number of others – Prayer was offered by Rev Mr Thompson – Rev Mr Hosmer – then Mr Hersh – Rev Mr Johnson – rose to speak – but was objected to by Edward Fairchild – who came up was in decent for Gen. Devereux – the county to speak on such a matter – the meeting – Mr Lee's decision – before they were invited to leave by Mr Hersh – in relation to – Mr Hosmer's address – they did – 1/4 Mr Phillips & the county on the ground – & Mr Hosmer – as customary – & speaking on the night – Mr Phillips spoke as well as he could – & Jones – an amendment to the resolutions – substituting "Pierce" – Sanford – Democratic – Governor – the President – interpreted that part of the resolution – Mr Worthington – was made a fatal mistake – for instead of saying – that there was

the Constitution & Gentlemen must govern themselves by it — he went at some length into Lawson's argument on the woman's rights question — & discussed great many minor matters — Judge T & some of the William boys & Dewey Downing were present — Worthington to get it to the House — to enter into the meaning of the clause in the Constitution — it was then by a vote of 3 to 1 — only few women voting & four or five voted — Gomez — Spencer — & Captain Hunt — one great difficulty was this — there were no by-laws of proceedings or meetings either appertaining to the Constitution — we never been dignified by any — the friends were at all up at this stage — that needs shuffling about a business committee — it was agreed at last for the Rayburn Price 3 to 2 — the Committee — reporter — & messenger — & that at the Committee should come through them — & one other I have forgotten — This accepted — Then came the Amendment — I should have said — that there were many faithful & true women there who previous counsel us to know they should act — they were new to the essence of duty & duties but all present — & the few who have voted did so with fear & trembling — at the end of the Amendment — Gomez rejected the principles of the new Bryan election "to meet in the valley" — Solomon this medically called on "all the friends of the cause to assemble at the Post Office at 8 P.M. as usual. to the Miss. to remain where they were" — & thank you Lord — the insolent vermin & Blood thirsty & greed to occupy the precious time of the old Lawyer — Sheathing — against time — during the argument — Jones says that he would have been knocked out — he had spoken much longer than he thought to — great boos & indignation that he exercises — after they got rid of him they had to take action immediately — it was settled that the next division must be set aside — but Worthington had not the means to do it — they wanted $2 or $3 worth Jones during very much — but was determined that Worthington must — & went the chair & Capt Hunt & Worthington — you know can go ahead — & a little [illegible] — he took it & then Solomon offered a resolution which the time to be is this "Resolved — that as the Constitution of

this society says that all its members should vote at its meetings — & that all persons consenting to its principles may become members — The resolution passed by this Soc in the morning is in precisely the same words & reads clearly that if the could get the yeas & nays that the women should answer to their names most probably — but that would be lost by a counting vote — the mover for yeas & nays — & to his great surprise they also moved the importance of this & the yeas & nays — Jones had discovered one woman in Almira — Hawkins — who came with credentials from a Soc in Owenthown as delegate to the Co — he talked with her & she agreed to move or second her point — he placed her name first — I sneered before any other names appeared on the list — I sneered others who it was known would vote for providence — & thereby also proper intervals & the (Jones was dec) — Almira rest left to providence — & the other women saw this way & thus clear before them — the vote was two more yes on our side than on theirs — & thus it was that the 98 women — with its two gained large majorities Philbrick counted all names — & this vote stood 77 to 60 — we believe — Matters were very high again then — they howling flew the fight — & Holmes & Jones & Philbrick — in a manner that shamed some present — even him — I strove to pay attention to Collins' words, as covering to Johnsons as comes a most miserable speech — he stood here at first — of his 15 minutes — he in the most lively manner hoped that they would be permitted to go on he really rolled the money — Jones & Jones had permitted the most time — they hope they would now have done — & Isaac the Isaac stone & when he mentioned that he would ask for it — he blushed no one knows one — & was no way slighted by his appears courtesy — the next lecture is from 1/4 minutes — & Isaac the March — then adjourned — & Street Isaac — felt upon the assembly — there & then remaining — they engaged much conversing — & passed resolutions & voted supplies — & had a good time in the

evening Ryder who had been so entertained through the day as to overstay his leave — Bolton's trouble — gave a good very good Lecture this is all I have been able to gather — there was a time when the day was nearly lost — when Collins ran from me and to man to man them not to desert, but to hold out the body of the meeting house against all others — I let the R Organ — betake themselves to the cellar you will see by the Geas & ways these are all new men — he knows none of them save the Revs — Tell the Dr that the Boston folks got to Wenham in season —

Miss Hannah Bowditch
Boston
Care of James W. Hosmer Esq.
New Bedford Mass.
Mrs. Wm. Ellery Channing
Boston

William Hanbury Stevens & even his wife voted my bill — Deighton has sent us 14 ℔ for the Jam — our preparations go on well — Lucia & Susan are at work at a great rate Emma has come in town — to Rot I mean & is boarding at Chas Howes My school is fuller than I expected — What does Dr Farnsworth think of the astute & eloquent Goodell he has vowed himself up to the very pounce of the Salem stream so much frequented — I declare I felt — for a moment borne with him — does it not strike you as immeasurably ridiculous — I think even this

MS.A.9.2.V.12 P.29